



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine.

VOL. IV.

JULY, 1903.

No. 3.

PAPERS OF THE SECOND COUNCIL OF SAFETY
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN SOUTH
CAROLINA, NOVEMBER 1775-MARCH 1776.

[*Continued from the April number.*]

[23.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO ARCHIBALD BULLOCH.]

Charles Town So Carolina
4th March 1776.—³⁰

Dear Sir,—

The Messenger by whose hands I received your favour of the 15th Ul^{to} together with Letters from your Congress to the Congress of this Colony dated the 15th & 16th has been detained ten days past, partly owing to the hurry of business in Congress which has employed the president's whole

³⁰ The preserved portion of the journal of the second Council of Safety ends with Monday, February 26, 1776 (*See Collections of the South-Carolina Historical Society*, Vol. 3, pp. 270-271), so that our only sources of information regarding the transactions of that body (the real executive of South Carolina from November 30, 1775 to March 26, 1776) are the papers published in this magazine from now on and the items to be found in *The South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, then publishing in Charles Town.

time while on Shore & partly to the young mans neglect to call on Mr Drayton³¹ under pretence that he could not find him. at length the Council of Safety think it necessary to discharge him. & I have paid his expences for supplies on the Road £12,,—& a further sum is to be paid to his Landlord for himself & Horse——

I will not trouble you with a detail of our affairs here, you will lern the whole from a number of our Gentlemen who are gone & going to your assistance in Savanna— I am afraid from your accounts they will arrive too late to do all the good we wish for. but while we are busily employed in guarding Savanna it behoves us to look well to Beaufort the loss of that place together with the acquisition of the Harbour by our Enemy would be a fatal Stroke to both Colonies

I beg you will put a Wafer under the Seal & take the first opportunity of conveying the Letter here inclosed to my old acquaintance Capt Innes who I suppose is in your Neighborhood. My good wishes ever attend you if you are crowned with Success, you will nevertheless deserve it; I am therefore with great truth and regard

Dear Sir

Your most obed^t Servant

Archd: Bullock Esquire

Endorsed: Copy 4th March 1776

A. Bullock³²

[24.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO MAJOR HABERSHAM.]

Charles Town So Carolina 5th March 1776.

Dear Sir—

Yesterday Morning Mr Will brought me your favour of the 28th Ult^o which I immediately laid before the

³¹ William Henry Drayton, the president of the second Provincial Congress of South Carolina, was also a captain in the navy of the Revolutionary party in South Carolina, which became, subsequently, the navy of the State of South Carolina.

³² There are two copies of this letter in the Society's collection—one a little rougher draft than that given above—both in Mr. Laurens's handwriting.

Congress, the Members were so deeply affected by the melancholy contents as led them instantly into a debate upon the necessity for sending an additional number of Militia to those already ordered for Savanna—a determination of that point was postponed until we Should hear from Coll^o Bull whose orders are to throw in any Number of Men that he Shall judge necessary for your assistance—we had Scarcely got through this business before an Express arrived with a Letter from your Council of Safety importing the most agreeable intelligence. I am extremely glad to find you are likely to make a Stand against the attempts of our Enemies & that the burthen of business which lay upon two or three of you is now more equally borne. the assistance which we have already dispatched we hope will be sufficient, but should there be a necessity for more Men I am persuaded we shall not hesitate to add three or four hundred, as to the article of Gunpowder I am sorry 'tis not in my power to say anything more on that subject.—while the Cherokee is parceeding within Sight of your Town & drawing off Men from the Southern frontier of this Colony I clearly perceive the feint which may be intended & that our Beaufort, may in one Night be taken by surprize & Fort Lyttleton fall without opposition, success in such a Stratagem would infinitely embarrass us, but it would effectually ruin you, as intercourse between Savanna & Charles Town would be much impeded, a few Troops from St Augustine attempting to make inroads about Sunbury & Ogechee would put you between two fires & keep your strings constantly upon the stretch—let us guard by every wise precaution against such schemes & while we are anxious to suppress the Fire in your own House take care lest we are ruined by flames from the next door—it will become us too, to be very careful of our Men, to avoid harassing them unnecessarily & to compel them to take all possible care of themselves while they are upon duty—the approaching season should be well considered & all unnecessary fatigue avoided—if early fevers should seize our Troops

the work of our Enemies would be made very easy—on the contrary if we support our Men, theirs will unavoidably begin to flag as the warm weather sets in—confinement on board their ships & want of proper refreshment will on the other hand hasten their destruction.

While North Carolina on one side & Georgia on the other is attacked, & we, who were most loudly threatned, are left in a seeming State of tranquility, what conclusion can be drawn not surely that we are protected by our Innocence, but that Vengeance is preparing for us, to be brought on when our friends shall be rendred incapable of affording us assistance—from every consideration therefore it behoves these three Colonies to act with great wariness & foresight always on the defensive.—but let us act with Resolution & divine providence will bless our actions with success——

I wish you my Dear Sir Honour in the field & the smiles of fortune everywhere—being very sincerely

Your most obed^t Servant

Major Habersham.——

Endorsed: Copy 5th March 1776

Major Habersham

[25.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO WILLIAM EWEN.]

Charles Town 6th March 1776.

Dear Sir.—

The Inclosed Letter is from our Congress which Mr Drayton Sent here last Night in answer to yours which I laid before the Congress yesterday Morning— I have paid your several expresses the following sums to enable them as they pretend to pay their expences on our Road.

£25. to Rodolph Strohacker & Jenkin Davis——£12,, to Thomas Herman & a further Sum about £18,,—for Expences himself & Horse during the time he was detained in Charles Town——

I ardently wish to learn the arrival of our Militia at Savanna
& that you have been enabled to oppose the landing of
Troops.—— I am with great regard—

Sir your most obed^t Serv^t

William Even Esquire—

Endorsed : Copy 6. March 1776

W^m Even

[26.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO CAPT. THOMAS TUCKER.]

Sir

Application having been made to us for a new arrange-
ment of the Battery on Wadmelaw under your Command we
are desirous of consulting you thereon & for that purpose we
request you will come to Charles Town—give us notice of
your arrival & we will immediately meet in order to prevent
delay.

8 March 1776

By order of Council of
Safety

H L: president

Capt Tho Tucker

N Edisto.

[27.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO CAPT. JOSEPH TURPIN.]

State House 9 March 1776.

Sir—

From your application for orders to go to Sea in the
Brig: Comet we take for granted that the Vessel is in all
respects in proper condition for meeting an equal Armed
force, & therefore think it necessary that you Should forth-
with proceed in the Said Brigantine over the Bar & that you
should Stretch up on the Coast as far Northward & South-
ward as will admit of your return within the Bar this Evening
or to morrow—when we shall expect your report.—We
recommend to you the Security of our Pilot Boat & of any

friendly Vessel on the Coast & that you will not expose your Vessel & Men to the danger of encountering an unequal Match

Inclosed you will find the Signal, which will be made of any Vessel of the Continental fleet which you will reserve entirely to yourself.

We repose an equal confidence in your discretion to guard against a hazardous attack & your bravery to defend your Brig: to the last extremity if you cannot avoid one. the honour of the American Arms as well as your own will in Such an event be at Stake. We wish you success.

By order of the Council of
Safety

Capt Joseph Turpin—

By the Council of Safety
9th March 1776.

Ordered that M^r Elsinaure & in case of his absence a proper person to be appointed by Capt. Tufts forthwith to conduct & pilot the Ship port Henderson from Rebellion Road to a Safe Mooring place under the Command of Fort Johnson where the Ship is to lye till further orders—

H-L.
President

[28.]

[A BILL OF HENRY LAURENS.]

The public of South Carolina

To Henry Laurens D^r

1776.

Febry. 7.

£ S. D

103—3 Inch plank gty. 2130 feet

delivered at Sullivants Island

@ £9. 7^d—

191,,14,,—

9,, 58—3 Inch plank gty. 1095. feet . .

@ 9,,

98,,11,,—

	& for 2 days Hire of a Flat	}	12,,—,—
	4 Negroes & a White Man		
	for last parcel & this to		
	Sullivants Island . . .	}	96,, 6,, 0
20,, 56,, —	3. Inch plank gty. 1070.		
	feet @—9		
	these landed at Mr		
	Gadsden's Wharf . . .	}	
26,, 9,, —	3 Inch plank		
	gtv. 171 feet		
	@ £9.-		£15,, 7,, 9
ad Mr Cannon 54—	Inch Boards gty.	}	35,, 19,, 0 51,, 6,, 9
	938 feet		
—	ditto ad Capt		
	Blake. 500,, feet		
	a 50/. Ⓢ		
26 th	4 Swiveled Guns		40,,—,—
	5850 ^t Weight of Waggon Tying	}	1096. 17. 6
	Iron & Nails, do to Mr Cal-		
	vert by Doctor Oliphant's		
	order @ 3/9—		
			£1586. 15. 3

Endorsed: Copy of the Public
 Accot^d ad the 10 March
 1776
 & Rec^d £1586,, 15,, 3,,

[29.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO CAPT. ALEXANDER GILLON.]

Charles Town 15th March, 1776.

Sir.—

We have considered the Contents of your Letter of the 11th Inst & in compliance with your request we Shall order the Brig: Comet & Schooner Defence, on a Short Cruize, to call off Winyah Bar & take your two Vessel

under Convoy to the edge of Soundings—the Signals which you have recommended shall be adopted, & we desire you will be ready to come out of port on Sunday, & that you keep a good look out for the Vessels in order to Save the Powder which may otherwise be wasted by firing of Guns— & as you will now have less occasion for Gun powder & our own wants & the very great want of that article in our Neighbourhood becomes every day more alarming, we shall take it well of you, if you will not avail yourself of the permission which we gave you to take fifty pounds weight from the public Store at George Town. if you could feel our circumstances we are Sure you would not take one grain.—We wish you a Successful Voyage.—

By order of the Council of Safety

Capt Alex^r Gillon

If your Vessels are not quite ready for Sea, we would advise you to send an advice Boat to meet our Vessels near Winyaw Bar by which you will write to Capt^r Turpin & Tufts—Your Boat Should make your Signals but by no means delay our Cruizers by long waiting

[HENRY LAURENS TO LT.-COL. BENJAMIN GARDEN.]

Charles Town 15th March 1776.

Sir.—

In consequence of your application under the 8th Inst & in order to promote the public service we have now given a draught on the Colony Treasurers for Four thousand & Eight hundred pounds for payment of the Several Accounts which came inclosed in your Said Letter. Viz^t

Capt^r James Wilson's Account.....£901,, 5,—

Moses Cotter for Waggon hire....., 66,, 0,—

Capt^r William Wickly's Account.....,328,,19,—

Ensign John Wicklys Account....., 66,,11,—

1362,,15,—

& for the use of Coll^l Bull's Regiment, 3437,, 5,—

£4800,, —

We rely upon you to make payment for the four first mentioned accounts & to transmit us proper acquittances for the Same as Spedily as possible—& we also confide in you for a transmission of the Several pay Bills which are now deficient—it is altogether irregular to advance Money for Such purposes before the Services have been performed & Stated accounts attested & laid before us for examination, but we are persuaded that through your vigilance & attention no ill consequences will arise from the present indulgence——

We do not know what commission Coll^o Bull means as you say he forgot to ask for it—but if you know & will inform us we will transmit it immediately—

By order of the Council of Safety—
Lieuten^t Colonel Garden

Endorsed : Copies 15 March 1776

To

Capt^t Alex^r Gillon

&

Lieut^t Coll^o Garden

[3C.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE COMMITTEE AT GEORGE TOWN.]

Charles Town 15th March 1776

Gentlemen

We thank you for the intelligence in your Letter of the 13th which came to hand this Evening—the Success of our friends in North Carolina is a great event, & it is a pleasing circumstance to us, that they have not repeated their calls for Gun powder—it is not in our power to Issue any more from our present Stock—we have intimated to Capt. Gillon the Scantiness of our Magazine & how pleasing it will be to us if he will not avail himself of our permission to take 50^t from that under your care—he will have the less need now, as we have ordered the Comet and Defence to Convoy

his Vessels from your Bar to the edge of Sounding, those two Armed Vessels Sailed late the past afternoon & will probably be in sight of your Shore to Morrow Morning—we are loth to countermand our ordder altho our necessity almost compels us to do it, but we hope that Capt^t Gillon's good sense & consideration will Shew that it would have been an unnecessary measure.

We have just received advices of the 12th from Savanna where they had then a respite from action—the Cherokee & other armed Vessels had returned to Cockspur with about ten Sail of Vessels which after having thrown out about 2000 Barrels of Rice had got under their Cover in back River—four Vessels with valuable Cargoes were burnt & Seven Seized & detained, four of which are loaded.

We learn Strange accounts of the behaviour of the British Troops, who seem to have been panic struck, they not only fled in confusion but even cried out for Mercy—about 70 Indian Men were at Savanna, 10 were in our trenches one of whom was wounded—upon which Stukyehee the great warrior of Cussita remarked—“that the Americans & the people over the Great Water, who are the Children of the Same Mother have quarreled & cannot make up their quarrel without Arms that as his Nephew joined us & got hurt in the first engagement he & his people would now join & assist us.”—

By order of the Council of Safety
Committee at George Town

[31.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO COL. STEPHEN BULL.]

Charles Town So Carolina

16th March 1776—

Sir—

late this Evening your Letters of the 13 & 14th were laid before us the contents are great & we shall dispatch an immediate answer by a Special Messenger we assure you that

we are truly Sensible of your zeal in the Service of your Country & that no part of your advices which you wish to be kept Secret Shall be devulged—We do not intend to offer your Letters to Congress altho we think it proper in general terms to communicate certain parts of them which we know will afford satisfaction, at least for the present Day.

We Send you by the bearer £3500—sealed up in a packet & particularly recommended to Grouber's care he does not know the Contents but will deliver you the packet safe if he delivers this—With this Money you will pay Such of the Troops of our Colony as you shall think may stand most in need—& as it may be a means of encouraging our Georgia Friends to be informed that we wish to have all our Carolina Militia in their service paid by this Colony we desire you will give distant intimations of our intention to apply to Congress for that purpose & also at a proper time to the Continental Congress to take in the whole as a general expence—we are of opinion that Georgia ought not to be burthened with the Charge, however as we dare not, so you will not, venture to give possitive assurances on this head but tis certainly our intention & our endeavours shall be accordingly exerted to Save Georgia from the load—

Now for the grand we may say the awful business contained in your Letter, it is an awful business notwithstanding it has the Sanction of Law, to put even fugitive & Rebellious Slaves to death—the prospect is horrible—

We think the Council of Safety in Georgia ought to give that encouragement which is necessary to induce proper persons to seize & if nothing else will do to destroy all those Rebellious Negroes upon Tybee Island or wherever they may be found, If Indians are the most proper hands let them be employed on this Service but we would advise that Some discreet white Men be encorporated with or joined to lead them—the loss which may result to proprietors ought to & must be borne by the public, it ought not to be the loss of Georgia alone—to those Royal Miscreants who are carrying

on an inglorious picaroon War let every inglorious unavoidable act of necessity which we may be driven to commit for our self preservation be imputed—from the confidence we repose in your humanity & prudence on one hand & your zeal for the Interest of your Country on the other, we will take upon us to indemnify you for all that you shall do or cause to be done in this momentous concern—if private Interest, if the Interest even of a Colony & no more was at stake we might submit to suffer great injuries in both Cases. in preference to giving Orders for Such sanguinary measures as may follow in consequence of these—but when we consider that the loss of Georgia may be Seconded by the Loss of Carolina & eventually work the defeat of the American cause in which the happiness of ages unborn is included we dare not even hesitate whether we should order or perform any act which is required & warranted by the first Law of nature as well as by the Law of the Land——

We desire you will present our respects to the Council of Safety at Savanna assure them of our readiness to assist Colonel Wells that we hope he will succeed in every thing he has in view here & will soon return—

tis our earnest request they will not Suffer any of those Vessels now in their custody to be taken off by the Enemy the best & surest method of preventing such mischief will be to unrig & render them incapable of moving without permission—& if necessity requires it to reduce them to Ashes— We truly wish you health & happiness—

By the Council of Safety

Colonel Bull
at Savanna

[32.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA AUTHORITIES.]

Charles Town So Carolina

20th March 1776.

Gentlemen—

After the most mature deliberation upon the important contents of your dispatch by the hands of Mr Ewen

under the 15th we find it necessary to determine that we ought not to lessen our present stock of Gun Powder, except by the 300^l which we had some time ago reserved for you at George Town in addition to the 1000^l formerly Issued for Wilmington and Salisbury which we shall desire the Commee to send forward in order to méet an escort from you at time & place to be concerted---what is further needful to be said on this head you will learn from Mr Ewens---we have not a field piece to spare except a few Iron 3 pounders which have been long lying on & in the Ground if these upon examination shall be found good we shall order four of them to George Town from whence you may get them also

We know nothing of the Continental Fleet except that the Sloop Hornet was on this Coast about a Month ago sent her Boat with two Warrant Officers & five Men on shore these are still here but we have heard no more of the Sloop there was indeed at one time a glorious opportunity for disconcerting the whole plan of our Enemies, a time when, the Ships of War at Savanna as well as those infesting your River might have been totally destroyed.---we can only hope that some what of equal importance has been done.---

We are to meet to morrow morning in a large Committee with Mess^{rs} Nash & Kinchen in order to concert a plan for the mutual defense of these Southern Colonies & you will hear further from us by them in a few days---mean time, although all circumstances considered we look upon our own danger to be the most imminent you may be assured not only of our good wishes but of every effort in our power to assist you . Our Congress which is still setting have nearly concluded a system of Resolves which are to be the Basis of a Constitution for this Colony during the continuance of our opposition to Tyranny, probably within three days the Congress & Council of Safety will be lost in the General Assembly, Legislative Council, President & Commander & Chief Vice President of the Colony & privy Council.---We are

told the Enemy's Ships of War which were lately at Cockspur
are all sailed if so you will soon hear more of them

By the Council of Safety---

Endorsed: Copy 20th March 1776

[33.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE COLONY TREASURERS.]

£47,, 10,, —

Pay to Mr William Russel Forty Seven pounds
10/. for payment to be made to Sundry persons who by order
of Congress made three Manuscript Copies of the British Act
of Parliament for "prohibiting all Trade & Intercourse" with
the United Colonies in America

25 March 1776.---

To

The Colony Treasurers

£9-----

Repay to Col^o M^cIntosh the sum of nine pounds
within Mentioned

26th March 1776

By the Council of Safety

To

the Colony Treasurers—

£1278. 19/-

26th March 1776—

Gentlemen pay to William Parker Esquire
One thousand two Hundred & Seventy Eight pounds 19/for
the within Acco^t

By the Council of Safety

To

the Colony Treasurers-----

26 Mar. a Bill for £8—to pay Jeram Sharp for piloting
the Hornet's Boat from Sante, the Bill is for
£11. 7. 6—£8 supposed to be a full allowance
charge to Continental Congress—

to J Calvert 28th

P Moses 35.10

Jn^o Michael 373.13

James Jaudon 108 —

Mey & Cripps . 150 —

Snead 62 — £500.

Doctr Budd 50 — Pay to Mr. William Dunbar

W Stone 175. 9.6. on Accot of the Commissioners

P fenniger 509.10- for Indian affairs by order of
George Galphin Esquire Five
hundred pounds more—

By order of the Council of Safety
on the 22^d March 1776—

To

The Colony Treasurers—

£2311. 17. 10—

26th March 1776 —

Pay to William Gibbes Esq^r the above mentioned
amount of Two Thousand three hundred Eleven
pounds 17/10.—

By the Council of Safety

To

The Colony Treasurers.—³³

³³ There is a rough duplicate copy of this order on the back of which
is written:

23^d March 1776 pd
Wm Dunbar for George
Galphin Indian affairs
£2800—
Order now 500—
27th
paid Mr Laurens for
Negro hire Izards Camp
Planta 2 accots £53: 3/

30th

250 Dollars a Bill on the Commee of Safety 17
 Jan^y 1776 by Tho Lynch Chris Gadsden &
 E. Rutledge to Willing & Morris endorsed
 to John Dorsius being for expenses of
 M^r Proctor with 35 Recruits for the Artil-
 lery—directed to be paid by the Treasurers
 25 March 1776. It upon examination the Accounts
 within referred to are found right pay to Tho.
 Evance Esq^r Two thousand six hundred & thir-
 teen pounds 15/ for paying the second Reg^t of
£2613,15 foot to this day——

By order of the Council of Safety
 H L.

£40,,5,,—

26th March 1776.——

Pay the within sum of Forty pounds
 5/. to Major Andrew Williamson to
 reimburse his advance for the within
 Service

By the Council of Safety

To

The Colony Treasurers

25th March 1776.——

£580,,—

Pay the within sum of Five hundred &
 Eighty Pounds to M^r Hugh Pollock

By the Council of Safety

160 Pouches .	480
160 Belts & Frags	100

To

The Colony Treasurers

25 March 1776

Pay to Capt Jacob Jenneret three hundred &
Nineteen pounds 4/ for the two Accot^s
within & charge Col^o Richardson's expedition—

By the Council of Safety

To the Colony Treasurers

H L

Pay to Peter Bounetheau Esquire One Hundred and twenty
five pounds for writing done for the Committee of Intelli-
gence—

By the Council of Safety

25^h March 1776.

To

The Colony Treasurers

Say £125 ³⁴

25th March 1776—

£5227.13.4—

Pay to Mess^r P. Lepoole & John Burnley
Five thousand two hundred & twenty seven pounds 13/4. for
a Cargo of Rice Shiped by them on public Account on board
the Brigantine Liberty Philip Conway Master for the West
Indies—

By order of the Council of

To

Safety

The Colony Treasurers.—

25th March 1776.——

£7790. 8. 4. —

Pay to M^r Aren Loockock for the Pay Mas-
ter of Rangers—Seven Thousand Seven hundred & ninety
Pounds 8/4 for the within accot^t & accounts referred to if
after full examination the Said accot^s shall be found right—

By the Council of Safety

To

The Colony Treasurers—

³⁴ This order is not in the handwriting of Henry Laurens, although
it is on the same sheet with the other orders given under No. 33. above.

26 March 1776.---

£45—

Pay to Samuel Grouber Forty five pounds for an
Express to Coll^o Bull at Savanna

To By the Council of Safety
The Colony Treasurers

£2173,, 2,, —

Gentlemen—

Pay to Mr William
Hest Two Thousand one hundred & Seventy three pounds &
two Shillings for Amount of this & four other Accounts to
be delivered herewith examined by the Commee of Accounts
& being in full of all his demands on the public—to the first
of this Month—26th March 1776

To By the Council of Safety
The Colony Treasurers—

[34.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE COLONY TREASURERS.]

Gentlemen

Pay to Mess^{rs} Verree & Harris Eleven hundred &
thirty Nine pounds for the annexed Acco^t observe that £600
was advanced hereon some time ago by me & repaid by
Mr Bacot

26 March 1776

H L &ct

To
The Colony Treasurers—

[35.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO GEORGE GALPHIN.]

Charles Town 29th March 1776.

Sir—

In consequence of your Letter of the 13 Inst to the
late Council of Safety, Mr Dunbar has been Supplied with

the following articles—which are charged to the Indian Commissioners & when it is convenient to that Board a Bill on the Continental Treasury for the amount of these & former supplies may be drawn & transmitted to the Treasury in Charles Town—

Your future correspondence will be with “His Excellency John Rutledge Esquire” who was chosen on the 26th & yesterday proclaimed in due form, “President & Commander in Chief of South Carolina.” ³⁵

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obe^d Ser^t

Henry Laurens

acting as late

Presid^t of the
Council of Safety—

Articles Supplied to Mr Dunbar
by the late Council of Safety
referred to above—

Cash - - - - -	£3300 —
20 Hogsds. of Rum	
as ₤ Invoice paid . .	,,2261 —
Coopers charges thereon ,,	7,,18,,—
1000 ^l Gun powder - -	,,1750,,—,,—
1500 ^l Lead - - - - -	,, 150,,—
	<u>£7468,,18</u>

George Galphin Esquire

³⁵ Mr. Laurens, who, as president of the Council of Safety, had been practically governor of South Carolina ever since the flight of Governor Campbell on September 15, 1775, had been chosen Vice-President.

[36.]

[HENRY LAURENS TO THE DELEGATES TO THE CONTINENTAL
CONGRESS.]

250 Dollars—30 March 1776

Bill on Committee of Safety

T L

C G

E R ³⁶

Mr Proctor with

35 Recruits for Artillery—

[This completes the publication of such papers of the second Council of Safety of the revolutionary party in South Carolina, 1775-6, as have so far been found in the collection of papers given by the Laurens family to the South Carolina Historical Society soon after its organization in 1855. The revolutionists having ruled South Carolina in fact if not in name from July, 1774, to March, 1776, the Provincial Congress on the 26th of the latter month adopted a constitution converting the Provincial Congress into a General Assembly and setting up an independent government "until an accommodation of the unhappy differences between Great-Britain and America" could be obtained. This accommodation was never obtained and the temporary independence became permanent. On March 26, 1776, therefore, South Carolina ceased to be a province and became a sovereign state, and the appellation "state" was then and there given officially as well as otherwise. Under the new constitution the President and his Privy Council (the Vice-President being a member and president thereof) supplanted the Council of Safety as the executive power in South Carolina and the latter body was dissolved.]

³⁶ Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsden and Edward Rutledge.